

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2001

804E0539

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1016

Introduced by: Representatives Kloucek and Klaudt and Senator Staggers

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Requesting national referenda to consider the termination
2 of mandatory agricultural checkoff programs.

3 WHEREAS, mandatory commodity checkoffs taken from farmers to fund commodity
4 organizations have weakened the family farm economically and politically while serving to
5 advance the interests of corporate industrial agriculture; and

6 WHEREAS, commodity organizations receiving the mandatory checkoff taxes have usurped
7 the voice of the family farmer in the halls of Congress, the USDA, and state government. These
8 organizations have weakened the powers of local units of government and promoted packer
9 ownership of swine and the continuation of the mandatory checkoff taxes themselves:

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-
11 sixth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that national
12 referenda of producers be held on the termination of each and every mandatory checkoff
13 program at the soonest possible date, and no later than August 2002, starting with the beef
14 checkoff referendum; and that Congressional and White House policy makers be advised that
15 family farmers must be represented in strength in all Farm Bill negotiations, at least equal in

- 1 number to the representation of commodity organizations.